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ABSTRACT

This document reports the potential student retainee rates for the Austin (Texas) Independent School District at the close of the 1990-91 academic year in eight figures and 21 tables. The following are the report's major findings: (1) the retention rate for 1990-91 for kindergarten through grade 12 is 4.7 percent (0.4 percentage points lower than the previous year); (2) the beginning-of-year retention rate is highest for grade 9 (22 percent), grade 1 (4.8 percent), grade 10 (11.3 percent), and grade 11 (7.6 percent); (3) retention rates for elementary schools and middle schools have generally declined over the past 4 years; (4) retention rates for high school have gone up over the past 4 years; and (5) the overall retention rates for the beginning of the 1990-91 school year were: 1.6 percent for elementary schools, 3.4 percent for middle schools, and 12.7 percent for high schools. An appendix contains a history of retention data collection and past retention rate trends. A list of definitions of terms used in the charts is also included. (JB)

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Historical Retention

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Report

1991

Historical Retention Report

July, 1990

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Austin
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Evaluation

July, 1991

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**Austin Independent School District
Department of Management Information
Office of Research and Evaluation**

**HISTORICAL RETENTION
REPORT, 1990-91
Executive Summary**

Author: Vicente Paredes

Program Description

This report of retention rates is produced twice yearly, once after the end of the school year (potential retainees), and once after the beginning of the next school year (actual retainees). Data for the most recent analysis as well as for past analyses are given.

Included in this report are:

- o Graphs and tables describing the most recent results.
- o Historical retention charts by grade and year.

Major Findings

- o The retention rate for 1990-91, grades K-12, is 4.7%. This is 0.4 percentage points lower than last year.
- o The beginning-of-year retention rate is highest for grade 9 (22.0 %). Also high are grades 1 (4.8%), 10 (11.3%), and 11 (7.6%).
- o Retention rates for elementary and middle schools have generally declined over the past four years.
- o Retention rates for high school have gone up over the past four years.
- o The overall retention rates for the beginning of the 1990-91 school year were:
 - 1.6% Elementary (K-5)
 - 3.4% Middle School
 - 12.7% High School

*A copy of the full report for which this is the Executive Summary is available as Publication Number 90.40 from:
Austin Independent School District
Office of Research and Evaluation
1111 West 6th Street
Austin, Texas 78703-5399
512/499-1724*



i	Executive Summary
1	Introduction
2	Summary of Most Recent Results
8	Historical Retention Charts
21	Appendix
	History of Retention Data Collection
	Past Retention Rate Trends
	Definition of Terms Used in Charts



This periodic report of retention rates is produced twice each year, once after the beginning of the school year and once after the end of the school year. Data are given for each grade level, as well as for particular grade ranges (e.g., high school, 9-12).

A summary of the most recent results is presented in figures 1-8. The retention percentages in these figures are based upon the average daily membership for the 1990-91 school year.

Each line of the Historical Retention Charts (pp. 8-19) is divided into two parts. This first half gives results for the end of a school year (potential retainees). The second half of each line gives results for the beginning of the next school year (those actually retained).

In addition, the historical retention charts present a number of other statistics. Following the potential retainee results for the end of the year, the average daily membership (ADM) of the year and the end-of-year membership (EOY MEMB) for the year are given. Also, the percent of the end-of-year membership retained and the percent of average daily membership retained are given.

Following the number of actual retainees for the beginning of the next year, the fall reenrollment count is given. Then, the percent of the average daily membership actually retained for the previous year (% ADM), the percent of end-of-year membership actually retained (% EOY MEMB), and the percent of fall reenrollment actually retained are given.

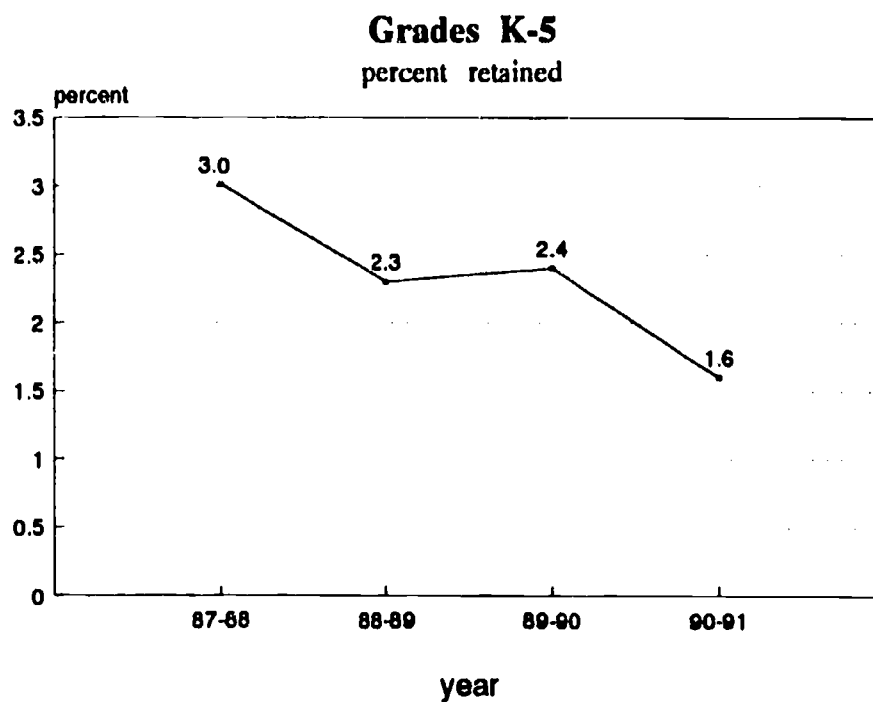
Potential retainees are determined either through teacher identification or by grade results (see definition on page 21). The number of **students actually retained** is determined by comparing the official end-of-year and beginning-of-year student master files. Students who do not advance one or more grade levels are identified as retainees.



Four Year Comparisons

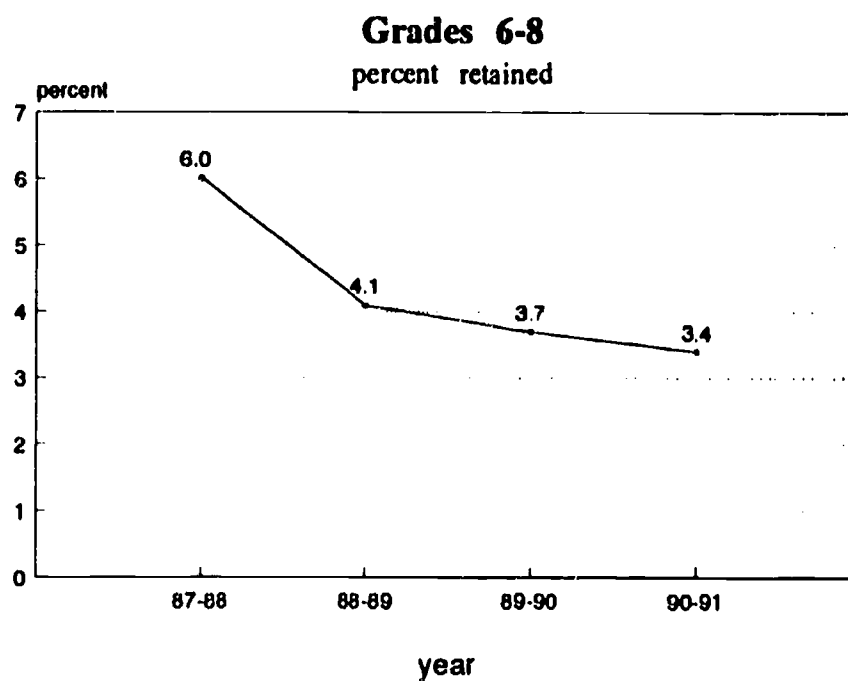
beginning-of-year retention rates

Figure 1



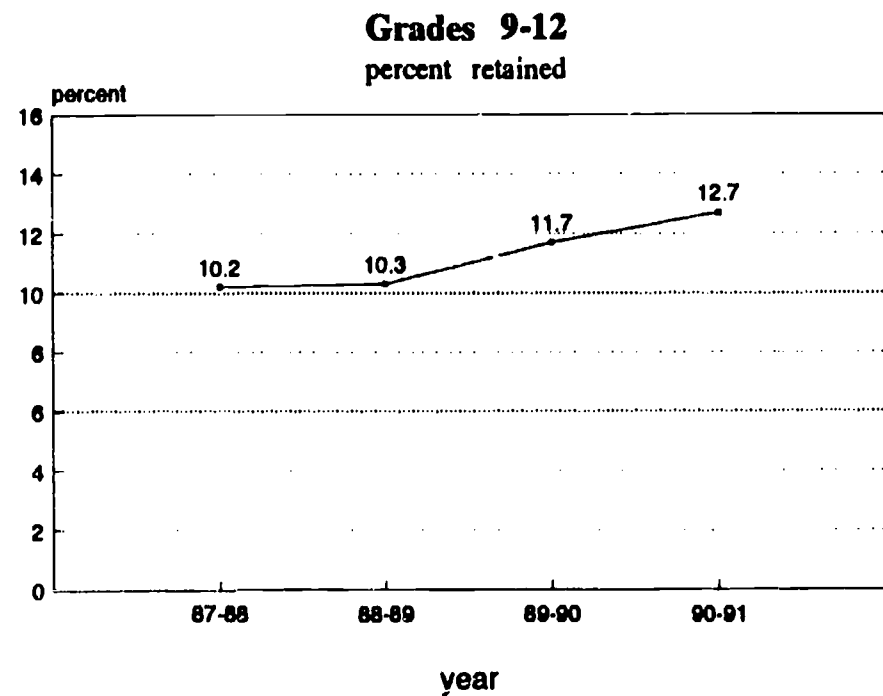
Retention rates for elementary and middle schools have generally declined over the past four years.

Figure 2

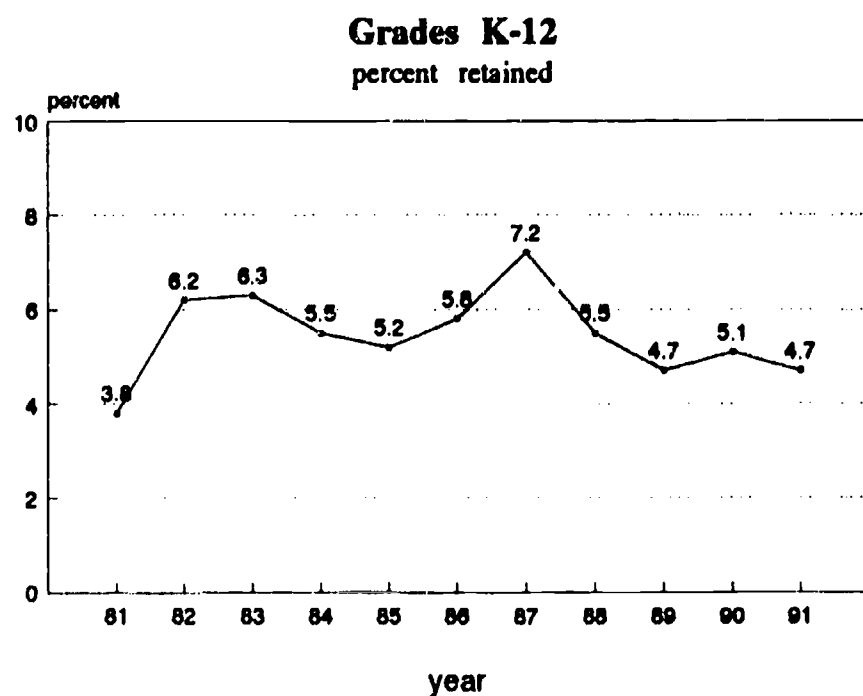


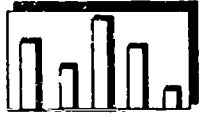
**Figure 3**

While retention rates for elementary and middle schools are going down, retention rates at the high school level continue to rise.

**Figure 4**

The retention rate for all grades (k-12) this year is 4.7 %. This is 0.4 percentage points lower than last year and the same as two years ago.

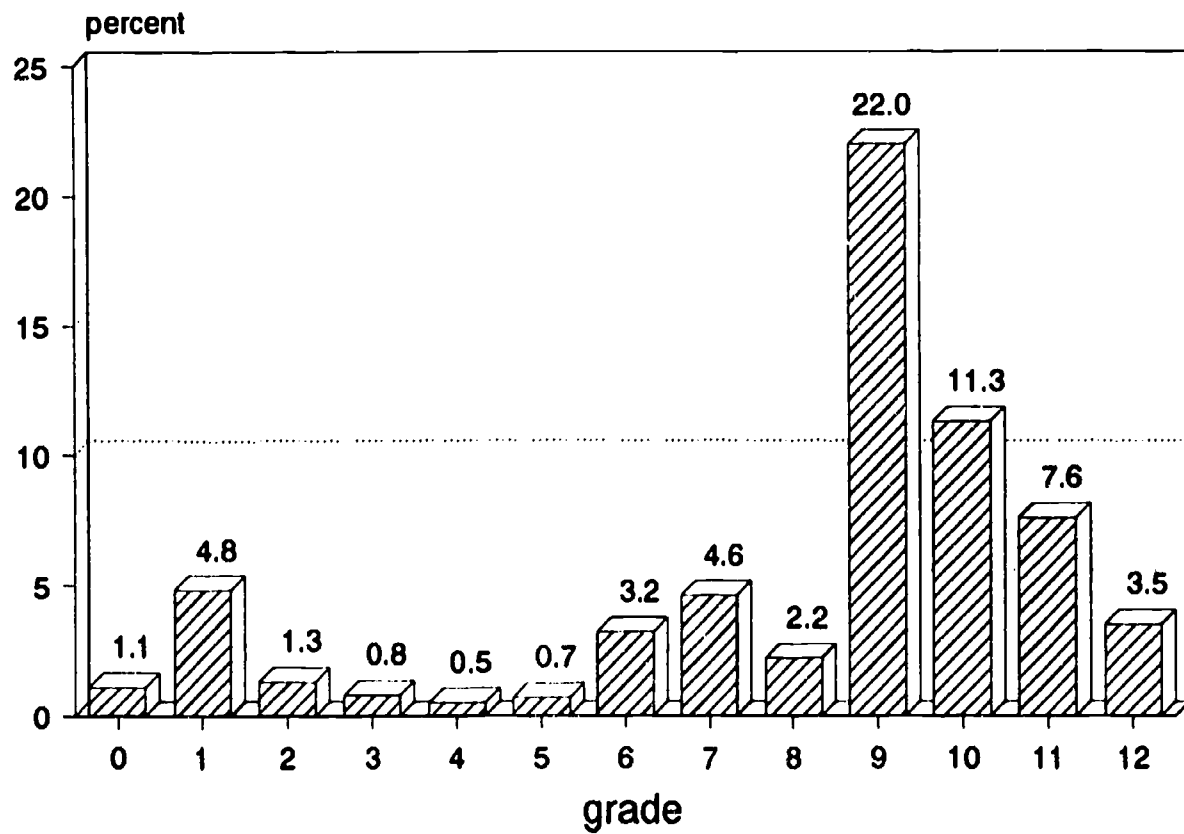




1990-91 Results by Grade

beginning-of-year retention rates

Figure 5



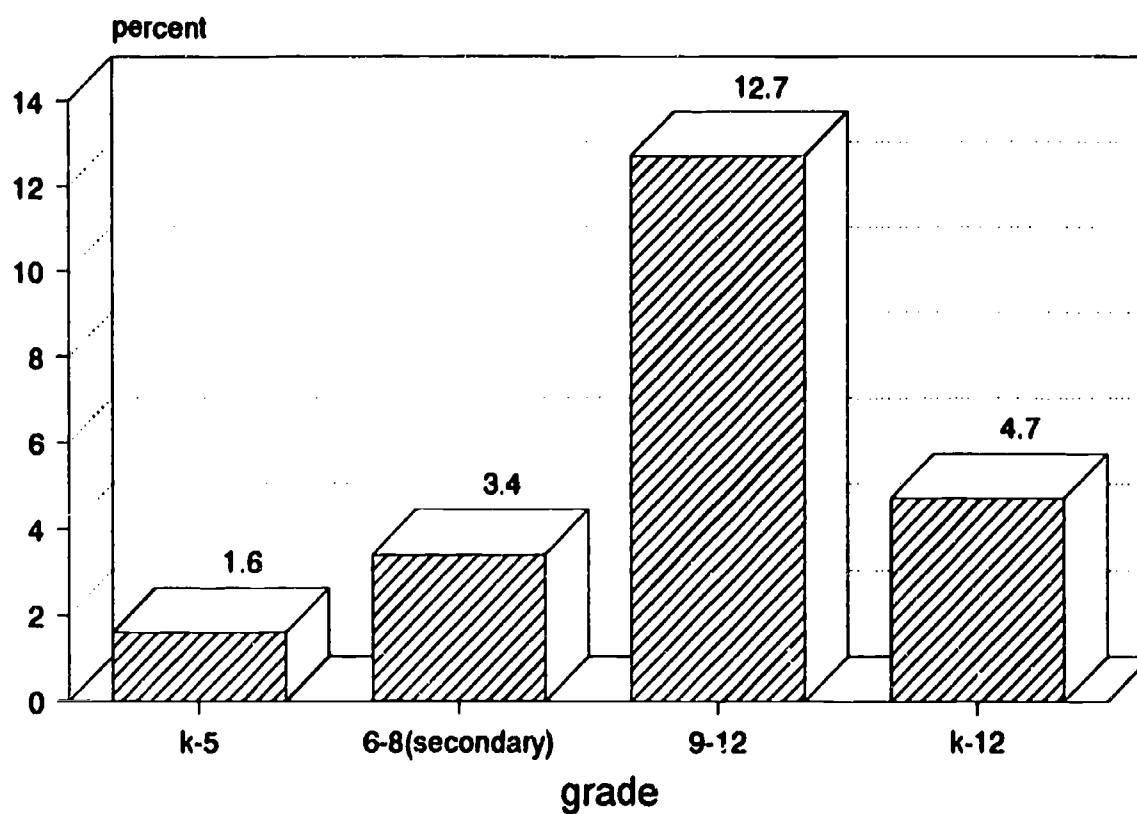
Again this year,
the highest
retention rates
are at grades 1,
9, 10, and 11.



1990-91 Results by Grade Range

beginning-of-year retention rates

Figure 6



High school retention rates are well above other grades and the District average.



Change From Last Year
actual retainees
1989-90 to 1990-91

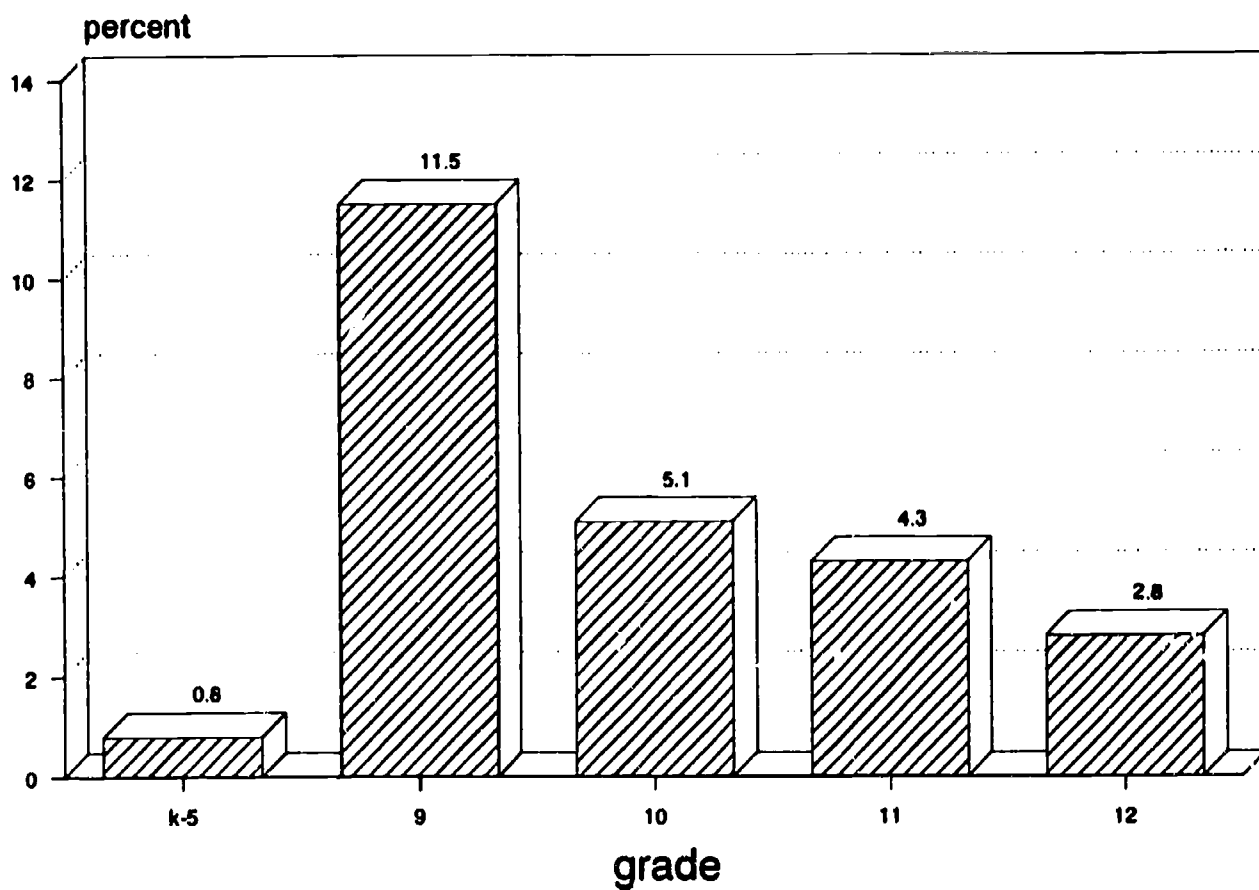
Figure 7

Grade	Change from last year	Amount of change
0	-	.6
1	-	2.0
2	-	.3
3	-	.5
4	-	.2
5	=	
6	-	.3
7	+	.4
8	-	1.1
9	-	2.6
10	+	3.2
11	+	1.0
12	+	.7



Potential Retainees 1990-91

Figure 8



Note: potential retainee statistics for grades 6-8 are not shown here and in the following charts because the definition of these statistics had not yet been determined at the time of this report.



Historical Retention Charts

GRADE 00

<u>END OF YEAR</u>	<u>POTENTIAL RETAINÉES</u>	<u>ADM</u>	<u>EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>BEGINNING OF YEAR</u>	<u># RETAINED</u>	<u>FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>
88-89	.	5470	5622	.	.	89-90	91	5058	1.7	1.6	1.8
89-90	.	5647	7408	.	.	90-91	60	4999	1.1	1.1	1.2
90-91	.	5905	7634	.	.	91-92	.	.	.	.	.

GRADE 1

6

<u>END OF YEAR</u>	<u>POTENTIAL RETAINÉES</u>	<u>ADM</u>	<u>EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>BEGINNING OF YEAR</u>	<u># RETAINED</u>	<u>FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>
88-89	.	5904	6057	.	.	89-90	400	5485	6.8	6.6	7.3
89-90	328	6085	6079	5.4	5.4	90-91	290	5201	4.8	4.8	5.6
90-91	185	6093	6072	3.0	3.0	91-92	.	.	.	.	.

GRADE 2

<u>END OF YEAR</u>	<u>POTENTIAL RETAINÉES</u>	<u>ADM</u>	<u>EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>BEGINNING OF YEAR</u>	<u># RETAINED</u>	<u>FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>
88-89	.	5178	5405	.	.	89-90	105	4918	2.0	1.9	2.1
89-90	72	5774	5781	1.2	1.2	90-91	73	5133	1.3	1.3	1.4
90-91	33	5808	5795	0.6	0.6	91-92	.	.	.	.	.

GRADE 3

<u>END OF YEAR</u>	<u>POTENTIAL RETAINÉES</u>	<u>ADM</u>	<u>EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>BEGINNING OF YEAR</u>	<u># RETAINED</u>	<u>FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>
88-89	.	4758	5100	.	.	89-90	64	4614	1.3	1.3	1.4
89-90	45	5425	5418	0.8	0.8	90-91	42	4803	0.8	0.8	0.9
90-91	24	5733	5731	0.4	0.4	91-92	.	.	.	.	.

GRADE 4

<u>END OF YEAR</u>	<u>POTENTIAL RETAINÉES</u>	<u>ADM</u>	<u>EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>BEGINNING OF YEAR</u>	<u># RETAINED</u>	<u>FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>
88-89	.	4515	4670	.	.	89-90	31	4223	0.7	0.7	0.7
89-90	24	5066	5040	0.5	0.5	90-91	25	4521	0.5	0.5	0.6
90-91	12	5334	5330	0.2	0.2	91-92	.	.	.	.	.

GRADE 5

<u>END OF YEAR</u>	<u>POTENTIAL RETAINÉES</u>	<u>ADM</u>	<u>EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>BEGINNING OF YEAR</u>	<u># RETAINED</u>	<u>FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>
88-89	.	4286	4476	.	.	89-90	32	4040	0.7	0.7	0.8
89-90	22	4668	4646	0.5	0.5	90-91	35	4148	0.7	0.8	0.8
90-91	11	5095	5087	0.2	0.2	91-92	.	.	.	.	.

GRADES K-5

<u>END OF YEAR</u>	<u>POTENTIAL RETAINÉES</u>	<u>ADM</u>	<u>EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>BEGINNING OF YEAR</u>	<u># RETAINED</u>	<u>FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>
86-87	.	.	.	.	.	87-88	935	.	3.0	.	.
87-88	.	.	.	.	.	88-89	746	.	2.3	.	.
88-89	.	30111	31330	.	.	89-90	723	28338	2.4	2.3	2.6
89-90	491	32665	34372	1.5	1.4	90-91	525	28805	1.6	1.6	1.8
90-91	265	33968	35649	0.8	0.7	91-92	.	.	.	.	.

GRADE 6 (ELEM)

<u>END OF YEAR</u>	<u>POTENTIAL RETAINÉES</u>	<u>ADM</u>	<u>EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>BEGINNING OF YEAR</u>	<u># RETAINED</u>	<u>FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>
88-89	.	679	676	.	.	89-90	8	625	1.2	1.2	1.3
89-90	.	711	709	.	.	90-91	4	617	0.6	0.6	0.6
90-91	.	716	723	.	.	91-92	.	.	.	.	.

GRADES K-6 (ELEM)

<u>END OF YEAR</u>	<u>POTENTIAL RETAINÉES</u>	<u>ADM</u>	<u>EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>BEGINNING OF YEAR</u>	<u># RETAINED</u>	<u>FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>
79-80	80-81	573	.	2.0	.	.
80-81	81-82	1251	.	4.3	.	.
81-82	82-83	1585	.	5.3	.	.
82-83	83-84	1133	.	3.9	.	.
83-84	84-85	1134	.	3.5	.	.
84-85	85-86	1331	.	4.1	.	.
85-86	86-87	1254	.	3.8	.	.
88-89	.	30790	32006	.	.	89-90	731	28964	2.4	2.3	2.5
89-90	.	33376	35081	.	.	90-91	529	29422	1.6	1.6	1.8
90-91	.	34684	36372	.	.	91-92	.	.	.	.	.

13

GRADE 6 (MIDDLE SCHOOL)

<u>END OF YEAR</u>	<u>POTENTIAL RETAINÉES</u>	<u>ADM</u>	<u>EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>BEGINNING OF YEAR</u>	<u># RETAINED</u>	<u>FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>
88-89	.	3387	3487	.	.	89-90	123	3195	3.6	3.5	3.8
89-90	.	3800	3716	.	.	90-91	129	3416	3.4	3.5	3.8
90-91	.	2993	3907	.	.	91-92	.	.	.	.	.

GRADE 6 (ALL)

<u>END OF YEAR</u>	<u>POTENTIAL RETAINÉES</u>	<u>ADM</u>	<u>EOY MEMB</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EOY MEMB</u>	<u>BEGINNING OF YEAR</u>	<u># RETAINED</u>	<u>FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EOY MEMB</u>	<u>% FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>
88-89	.	4066	4194	.	.	89-90	142	3846	3.5	3.4	3.7
89-90	.	4511	4454	.	.	90-91	144	4062	3.2	3.2	3.5
90-91	.	4709	4630	.	.	91-92	.	.	.	.	.

GRADE 7

<u>END OF YEAR</u>	<u>POTENTIAL RETAINÉES</u>	<u>ADM</u>	<u>EOY MEMB</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EOY MEMB</u>	<u>BEGINNING OF YEAR</u>	<u># RETAINED</u>	<u>FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EOY MEMB</u>	<u>% FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>
88-89	.	4533	4083	.	.	89-90	189	3707	4.2	4.6	5.1
89-90	.	4283	4229	.	.	90-91	198	3877	4.6	4.7	5.1
90-91	.	4473	4423	.	.	91-92	.	.	.	.	.

GRADE 8

<u>END OF YEAR</u>	<u>POTENTIAL RETAINÉES</u>	<u>ADM</u>	<u>EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>BEGINNING OF YEAR</u>	<u># RETAINED</u>	<u>FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>
88-89	.	4044	4008	.	.	89-90	133	3557	3.3	3.3	3.7
89-90	.	4099	4055	.	.	90-91	90	3717	2.2	2.2	2.4
90-91	.	4079	4014	.	.	91-92	.	.	.	.	.

GRADES 6-8 (SECONDARY)

15

<u>END OF YEAR</u>	<u>POTENTIAL RETAINÉES</u>	<u>ADM</u>	<u>EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>BEGINNING OF YEAR</u>	<u># RETAINED</u>	<u>FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>
86-87	87-88	719	.	6.0	.	.
87-88	88-89	490	.	4.1	.	.
88-89	.	11964	11578	.	.	89-90	445	10459	3.7	3.8	4.3
89-90	.	12182	12000	.	.	90-91	417	11010	3.4	3.5	3.8
90-91	.	12545	12344	.	.	91-92	.	.	.	.	.

GRADES 7-8

<u>END OF YEAR</u>	<u>POTENTIAL RETAINÉES</u>	<u>ADM</u>	<u>EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>BEGINNING OF YEAR</u>	<u># RETAINED</u>	<u>FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>
79-80	80-81	176	.	2.2	.	.
80-81	81-82	181	.	2.2	.	.
81-82	82-83	220	.	2.6	.	.
82-83	83-84	200	.	2.4	.	.
83-84	84-85	210	.	2.3	.	.
84-85	85-86	285	.	3.3	.	.
85-86	86-87	1066	.	12.6	.	.
88-89	.	8577	8091	.	.	89-90	322	7264	3.8	4.0	4.4
89-90	.	8382	8284	.	.	90-91	288	7594	3.4	3.5	3.8
90-91	.	8552	8437	.	.	91-92	.	.	.	.	.

91

GRADE 9

<u>END OF YEAR</u>	<u>POTENTIAL RETAINÉES</u>	<u>ADM</u>	<u>EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>BEGINNING OF YEAR</u>	<u># RETAINED</u>	<u>FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>
88-89	.	4643	4713	.	.	89-90	1140	4109	24.6	24.2	27.7
89-90	640	5212	4812	12.3	13.3	90-91	1149	4354	22.0	23.9	26.4
90-91	596	5189	4754	11.5	12.5	91-92	.	.	.	.	.

27

28

GRADE 10

<u>END OF YEAR</u>	<u>POTENTIAL RETAINÉES</u>	<u>ADM</u>	<u>EOY MEMB</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EOY MEMB</u>	<u>BEGINNING OF YEAR</u>	<u># RETAINED</u>	<u>FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EOY MEMB</u>	<u>% FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>
88-89	.	3695	3365	.	.	89-90	301	2985	8.1	8.9	10.1
89-90	552	3540	3356	15.6	16.4	90-91	400	3115	11.3	11.9	12.8
90-91	192	3776	3608	5.1	5.3	91-92	.	.	.	.	.

GRADE 11

<u>END OF YEAR</u>	<u>POTENTIAL RETAINÉES</u>	<u>ADM</u>	<u>EOY MEMB</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EOY MEMB</u>	<u>BEGINNING OF YEAR</u>	<u># RETAINED</u>	<u>FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EOY MEMB</u>	<u>% FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>
88-89	.	3509	3067	.	.	89-90	233	2760	6.6	7.6	8.4
89-90	674	3179	2977	21.2	22.6	90-91	241	2699	7.6	8.1	8.9
90-91	134	3148	2951	4.3	4.5	91-92	.	.	.	.	.

GRADE 12

<u>END OF YEAR</u>	<u>POTENTIAL RETAINÉES</u>	<u>ADM</u>	<u>EOY MEMB</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EOY MEMB</u>	<u>BEGINNING OF YEAR</u>	<u># RETAINED</u>	<u>FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EOY MEMB</u>	<u>% FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>
88-89	.	3153	3287	.	.	89-90	87	213	2.8	2.6	40.8
89-90	110	2947	3043	3.7	3.6	90-91	104	239	3.5	3.4	43.5
90-91	80	2828	2902	2.8	2.8	91-92	.	.	.	.	.

GRADES 9-12

18

<u>END OF YEAR</u>	<u>POTENTIAL RETAINÉES</u>	<u>ADM</u>	<u>EOY MEMB</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EOY MEMB</u>	<u>BEGINNING OF YEAR</u>	<u># RETAINED</u>	<u>FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EOY MEMB</u>	<u>% FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>
79-80	80-81	1279	.	8.0	.	.
80-81	81-82	1843	.	12.0	.	.
81-82	82-83	1559	.	10.3	.	.
82-83	83-84	1505	.	10.7	.	.
83-84	84-85	1626	.	10.4	.	.
84-85	85-86	1671	.	10.6	.	.
85-86	86-87	1798	.	11.5	.	.
86-87	87-88	1529	.	10.2	.	.
87-88	88-89	1548	.	10.3	.	.
88-89	.	15000	14432	.	.	89-90	1761	10067	11.7	12.2	17.5
89-90	1976	14878	14188	13.3	13.9	90-91	1894	10407	12.7	13.3	18.2
90-91	1002	14941	14215	6.7	7.0	91-92	.	.	.	.	.

GRADES K-12

<u>END OF YEAR</u>	<u>POTENTIAL RETAINÉES</u>	<u>ADM</u>	<u>EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>BEGINNING OF YEAR</u>	<u># RETAINED</u>	<u>FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>	<u>% ADM</u>	<u>% EDY MEMB</u>	<u>% FALL RE- ENROLLMENT</u>
79-80	80-81	2028	.	3.8	.	.
80-81	81-82	3275	.	6.2	.	.
81-82	82-83	3364	.	6.3	.	.
82-83	83-84	2838	.	5.5	.	.
83-84	84-85	2970	.	5.2	.	.
84-85	85-86	3287	.	5.8	.	.
85-86	86-87	4118	.	7.2	.	.
86-87	87-88	3183	.	5.5	.	.
87-88	88-89	2784	.	4.7	.	.
88-89	.	57754	58047	.	.	89-90	2948	49515	5.1	5.1	6.0
89-90	.	60436	61298	.	.	90-91	2851	50868	4.7	4.8	5.6
90-91	.	62170	62931	.	.	91-92	.	.	.	.	.



History of Retention Data Collection

Results for the years 1980-81 through 1987-88 were taken from the 1989-90 Retention Report (ORE Publication No. 89 13). Results for 1988-89 were produced by the computer program SA\$RETEN in the ORSLEP library. Results for 1989-90 and beyond are produced by a revision of SA\$RETEN, VP\$RET4 and VP\$RET5 in the ORSSAS library.

Each chart shows results for years for which data are available. Before 1990, only results for composite grade levels K-6, 7-8 (junior high), 9-12 (senior high), and K-12 were recorded. Percentages for these years were based upon the average daily membership.

After 1990, the retention reporting process was expanded to include statistics that were not previously reported such as percent of end-of-year membership (% EOY MEMB) and percent of fall reenrollment. Also, numbers for each individual grade level and for various composite grade levels are reported.

The student master files used in this report were ones that were designated complete and updated at four times during the year. These files were also archived so that any desired post hoc analysis will be possible.

Past Retention Rate Trends

Retention rates for the District rose to an all time high in 1986-87 (7.2% for grades K-12), probably as a result of the implementation of State Board of Education rules based upon House Bill 72. Since then, retention rates have generally declined. See ORE Publication No. 89.13, 1989-90 Retention Report, for a more detailed analysis of historical trends.

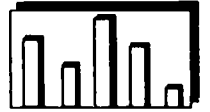
Definition of Terms Used in Charts

Retained

Elementary or middle school students who are repeating a grade level, or high school students who did not earn enough credits to advance a grade level. This is determined by comparing student master files for the end of a school year with the updated student master file after the beginning of the next school year.

Average Daily Membership (ADM)

An average over the school year of the number of students enrolled in the District.



**End-of-Year Membership
(EOY MEMB)**

The number of students officially enrolled at the end of a school year.

Fall Re-Enrollment

The number of students who returned to the District from the previous school year. The number of students who were on the student master file at the end of the school year and were also enrolled after the beginning of the next school year.

Potential Retainee

At the end of each school year a list of potential retainees is generated. These students are retainees pending summer school, withdrawal and other circumstances. At the elementary level, students are recommended for retention by teachers in an identification process that ends in May.

At the middle school level, students must have at least an overall average of 70, and pass three of four major subjects (science, mathematics, english, and social studies) in order to be promoted to the next grade level. Or, if the student is below the 40th percentile on the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills reading test, then the student must take a reading course and must pass four of five major courses (reading, science, mathematics, english, and social studies).

At the high school level students must earn the number of credits required to advance to the next grade level. A student must earn 5 credits to advance to the 10th grade, 10 credits to advance to the 11th grade, and 15 credits to advance to the 12th grade.

Austin Independent School District

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